



Summer 2020

Happy Canada Day



O! CANADA

We hope that all of you and your families enjoy a Fun Canada Day and that everyone has a memorable and safe summer this year.

All the very best - Alan, Christina, Melanie, Randy and Steve.

Resort Village of Thode
A | Box 202, Dundurn, SK S0K 1K0
P | 1.306.492.2259
F | 1.306.492.2068

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admin@thode.ca
www.thode.ca



The EMO and Thode



Marlene Schwenker

Coordinator and EMO Continue to Update EMO Plan

Thank you to our committee chair and EMO Coordinator Marlene Schwenker, our EMO Administrator Nathalie Baudais, the Division Leaders, block captains and volunteers. This very important work and your commitment will make Thode a safer community.

Since the fall of 2018, Marlene and her team have been modernizing our emergency planning strategy. Council and the EMO Coordinator work closely together so that our community is prepared to adapt to unforeseen emergency situations. We are fortunate to have the benefit of Marlene's expertise in this important position.

Our community and the neighbouring region continues to change and we need to review procedures and adapt as the region grows.

EMO Coordinator and Council Build a Strong Team to Help Thode Stay Safe

The EMO, (Emergency Management Organization) is a preparedness committee, which develops responses for the safety and well being of the residents of Thode. The EMO is activated, when necessary, by the Mayor or designate once an emergency has been declared. We work closely with Council and appreciate the need for strong communications and strategic collaboration.

For those of you that I haven't met or those of you that are new to Thode, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I learned to sail on Lake Blackstrap in the 1970's. When deciding where to live after leaving the Armed Forces, my husband Steve spoke of missing the lakes and rolling hills of Ontario. In 2001, we purchased our home in Thode.

*I bring a dynamic set of skills to the position of EMO Coordinator, including 15 years as a logistician in the Armed Forces, 20 years running a small business and my current position as a payroll and accounts administrator. I recently completed both Level 100 and 200 Incident Command Strategy (ICS) courses. ICS is going to be the international standard for emergency preparedness. This is going to allow Thode to be ready to support our residents in any emergency situation. We are grateful to Council and the many volunteers for supporting the EMO. Stay safe, stay healthy! - **Marlene & the EMO team***



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A REPORT FROM THE MAYOR – COUNCIL UPDATES

Our community, while small, is no less impacted than many others have been, but we remain committed to moving through the pandemic and returning to a new and adapted version of ‘*business as usual*’.

- ***New Office and CAO*** - Council has worked with Shields sharing resources and elevating our staff complement for well over five years now. In August of next year, after 35 years of diligent service, our administrator plans to retire. We have assessed our future needs and will work with Shields on a recruitment process and a new Administrative Office Centre to be built in Thode.
- ***Playgrounds and Recreation Activities*** – Our Parks and Recreation Committee continues to work on improvements in Angel Park and at the Sport Court and Melanie Olafson is reviewing the current structures and our options for adding newer play structures to replace some of the aging equipment. Safety is our first priority.
Remember to accompany your children in the parks. Children should not be left unattended and Staff in the Villages are not sanitizing the playground areas.
- ***Lakeshore Drive*** – is the name of the 211 Connector road that Thode is building to provide alternate egress from our Village. Eventually this road will also connect us more directly with Shields. Council has also added a south egress road connecting to the end of Highway 663 to our longer range plan.
- ***SGI Supports Safer Streets*** – June 29th Thode received the good news that SGI will provide funding for a new solar Speed Sign System to complement the current signage. Since improving our road surface to ‘chip-seal compound’ it became apparent that speed bumps, in addition to being ignored and damaging to smaller passenger cars were also damaging the road and this was costly to the Village as they became imbedded into the road and needed to be removed with a blade. Recent repairs have exceeded \$50,000 while we save for building Lakeshore Drive. ***Remember our Limit is 20 km per hour!***
- ***Google Maps*** – Apparently the GPS Locator for the Blackstrap Park is positioned so that Park traffic is sent into our Village. We are working with Parks and hopefully this will be corrected soon. Sask Highways and the Village are putting up new signs as well.

We hope everyone enjoys Canada Day and the upcoming long weekend. Stay safe

Alan Thomarat and Council

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General Election August 29th, 2020

Due to the Covid-19 State of Emergency, a Minister's Order was issued moving the Election date from July to August 29th. The Call for Nominations will be open July 6th to July 25th. Email notifications will follow shortly. A Public Disclosure Statement must accompany the Nomination Form. Contact the office for more information. Jessie @ 306 492 2259

We are Stewards of Crown Lands

Council hopes to continue its plan to develop walking trails and rest stations on the Crown property behind Summerfeldt residences. Other ideas that might be allowed on this leased property are also under review. Council is considering best uses for this property but all these must satisfy the conditions within the lease. In the meantime we ask that all residents help our maintenance team and continue to act as stewards of the Crown Lands for the benefit of all residents.

Council Meetings

Please note that due to COVID-19 measures and as Council meetings are held in the Village Centre, space limitations and social distancing requirements restrict attendance to Council members only until further notice.

Council Members

*Mayor: Alan Thomarat
Deputy Mayor: Randy Fernets
Councillor: Melanie Olafson
Councillor: Steve Schwenker
Councillor: Christina Taylor*

Administration: (Part time hours)

Jessie Williams 306-492-2259 – 9:00 to 5:00 (In person restrictions, call for appointment)

Facilities & Operations:

Fred Fehr 306-492-7922

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